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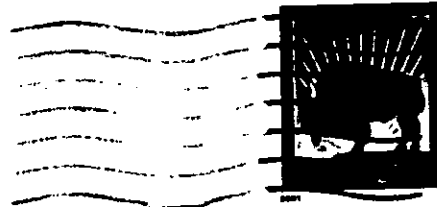
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**Comments on the DOE's Preliminary Recommendation
of a Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository**

How can the Secretary of Energy be preparing to recommend Yucca Mountain for a high-level nuclear waste dump when thousands of public comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement have not been addressed and key documents have not been finalized? In the absence of a Final Environmental Impact Statement, a Nuclear Regulatory Commission review, and a detailed proposal for transporting nuclear waste to Nevada, the Department of Energy lacks a basis for consideration of site suitability. The public cannot have confidence in any recommendation that arises from such a dramatically flawed process. I urge you to abandon the Yucca Mountain Project.

Name & Address:

*Barbara B. Volk, 1609 Pineview Dr
Raleigh, N.C. 27606*



Carol Hanlon
S&WE Products Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

89036+0307

